

# TOILES EDUNORD.

NOVELLO'S EDITION.



1786-1722

NOVELLO'S ORIGINAL OCTAVO EDITION.



## L'ETOILE DU NORD

## AN OPERA

IN THREE ACTS

COMPOSED BY

## GIACOMO MEYERBEER

EDITED, AND THE PIANOFORTE ACCOMPANIMENT REVISED, BY

BERTHOLD TOURS.

THE ENGLISH VERSION BY

HENRY F. CHORLEY.

Note.—The English translation of the Opera having been left unfinished by Mr. CHORLEY, it has been completed for this Edition by the Rev. J. TROUTBECK.

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## L'ETOILE DU NORD.

#### PERSONS REPRESENTED.

Prascovia (Niece of Reinhold)		Soprano.
NATALIE (a Vivandière)		Soprano.
EKIMONA (a Vivandière)		Mezzo-Soprano.
CATHERINE (Sister of George Skavronski)		Mezzo-Soprano.
George Skavronski (a Teacher of Music)		Tenor.
Danilowitz (a Pastrycook, afterwards a Colonel)		Tenor.
Ismailoff (a Cossack Officer)	1	Tenor.
A Workman		Tenor.
Peter the Czar (a Carpenter)		Bass.
Gritzenko (a Corporal of Grenadiers)		Bass.
Scheremetieff (a Russian General)		Bass.
Yermoloff (a Russian Colonel)		Bass.
Daniel (a Tayana Iraanan)		Bass.
10	116	Bass.
G TII	•••	S.
	•••	
,, VILLAGE GIRLS	• • •	S.S.A.
,, Workmen		S.S.T.T.B.B.
,, Recruits		S.S.T.T.B.B.
,, Musicians		T.B.
Corprepa		T.T.B.B.
WAT MITCHE		T.T.B.B.
,, MALMUCKS		

In the First Act the scene is laid in Finland; in the Second Act in the Russian camp; the Third Act in the palace of the Czar at St. Petersburg.

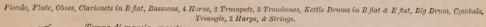
#### ARGUMENT.

THE opera opens with a village scene. Some carpenters are discovered resting during their dinner hour, Peter alone continuing at work. To them, as they sing in praise of leisure, appears Danilowitz, the pastrycook, and offers them his wares. Danilowitz asks after Catherine, who is usually to be found at this hour selling liquor to the workmen. They tell him she is staying at home to-day, and provoke Peter by their banter about his lover's grief at her absence. A drinking chorus in praise of Finland follows, whereupon Danilowitz drinks to the Czar, and raises a quarrel between himself and the workmen, Peter taking his side in it. The quarrel is ended by the sound of the bell recalling them to labour. Danilowitz then asks Peter how he, a Russian, comes to be in Finland. Peter tells him, and asks him in return about himself. Danilowitz says he purposes to return to Russia, and offer his services to the Czar. They agree to travel to Russia together, and Peter prophesies his companion's coming advancement. After the exit of Danilowitz Peter goes to the house of George Skavronski to have a lesson on the flute, and there learns that Catherine is gone to plead her brother's cause with Reinhold, the tavern-keeper, uncle of Prascovia, to whom George Skavronski is affianced. While George is telling Peter the story, Catherine returns with the news of the success of her mission. Peter listens to Catherine, and hears her go on to speak of the brilliant destiny her dying mother foresaw for her. To them appears Prascovia, breathless, having run to escape a body of Kalmucks and Cossacks, by whom the village has been invested. Catherine, however, sees in them fellow-countrymen and deliverers, and goes out to greet them. While they are singing a wild chorus, descriptive of their deeds, Catherine, in the name of her mother, once their Priestess, warns them to retire. She succeeds in checking them by promising to Gritzenko, their leader, promotion from the Czar, and good-fortune to all. A duet between Cathering and Peter follows, in the course of which she tells him he must rise to distinction before he can successfully claim her hand, and gives him a ring as a token of her promise to be his. In the next scene Prascovia brings a letter to Catherine, who on reading it finds that the Cossacks have impressed her brother, and that if he cannot find a substitute he will have to march that very night. Catherine comforts Prascovia by assuring her that her marriage with George will not be delayed, and that a substitute for fifteen days will certainly be found, only that George must come at the end of fifteen days to relieve his substitute. The marriage then takes place, Catherine passing through the crowd enveloped in a cloak, and singing a farewell to those whom she is about to leave.

The second act opens with a dancing scene in the Russian camp, Natalie, Ekimona, and other sutlers moving about, or dancing with the soldiers. Catherine appears, dressed as a recruit; Ismailoff, the Cossack, at Gritzenko's invitation, sings. Gritzenko himself sings afterwards in praise of the Russian Grenadiers, of which regiment he has now become corporal, and which he thinks has been slighted in Ismailoff's song. Gritzenko looks at Catherine intently, remarking that her face reminds him of a pretty singer he once knew in Finland. Catherine says it was her sister. They talk of the imperious commands of the Czar, and Gritzenko speaks of a mutinous conspiracy which is afloat in the army, Yermoloff, his colonel, being concerned in it. Meanwhile Peter arrives at the camp in the capacity of a captain. He tells General Scheremetieff he has heard of the mutinous spirit abroad in the army, but knows how to repress it; and, pending the arrival of a Tartar regiment on which he can rely, he holds a revel with Danilowitz, who is now a Russian colonel, and Natalie and Ekimona. Catherine and two other soldiers are appointed sentries over his tent. Catherine, peeping into the tent, recognises Danilowitz and Peter. With joy she hears her name toasted by Peter, but afterwards, with indignation, witnesses him in his drunkenness caressing the two vivandières. Gritzenko comes to relieve guard, and, finding Catherine spying upon the officers' privacy, orders her to quarters in confinement. She refuses to go, and strikes Gritzenko when he tries to force her away. On this Gritzenko drags her before Peter, who says she must be shot. As she is being removed she appeals with loud cries to Peter, who at length recognises her voice, and orders Gritzenko to bring her back. He returns, saying she has escaped by swimming the river near to which she was being conducted, and (aside) that he shot her in the water. He brings a paper with a farewell written upon it, and containing the ring Peter had given her, as well as the names of the chief mutineers, and she bids him use the information to advance himself with the Czar. A grand scene follows, in which Peter, confessing himself to be the Czar, quells the mutiny, revives the loyalty of the soldiers, and urges them on to victory.

The third act opens with a scene in which Peter appears, having taken up again carpenter's work, in order to try and forget Catherine. Danilowitz enters, and afterwards Gritzenko, the latter to ask for promotion, grounding his claim on his having received the blow from Catherine, without having had it atoned for. Peter is greatly enraged at the story, and seizes a hatchet to kill him for having fired at Catherine, but is prevented by Danilowitz. Gritzenko is ordered, on pain of death, to produce before the next day the soldier he fired at. Prascovia and George appear, and are arrested. At the moment Peter enters hurriedly, saying he has heard Catherine singing the song she and he alone know. Danilowitz allows that she is in the palace, having been brought there the day before by a peasant woman who had given her an asylum, but that he had foreborne to tell the Czar, since, from the hardships she had undergone and her lover's desertion, her reason had left her. The chorus with which the opera opens is then sung in her hearing, and Danilowitz, dressed as a pastrycook, sings his song again. Then appear George, Prascovia, and Reinhold, dressed as in Act I., and the chorus of girls that sang at Prascovia's wedding, singing the same words they sang then. Last of all the air Peter used to play on the flute is heard, and she joins in, and sings it. Her reason gradually returns, she falls into Peter's arms, and the opera closes with her being saluted empress.

#### OVERTURE.





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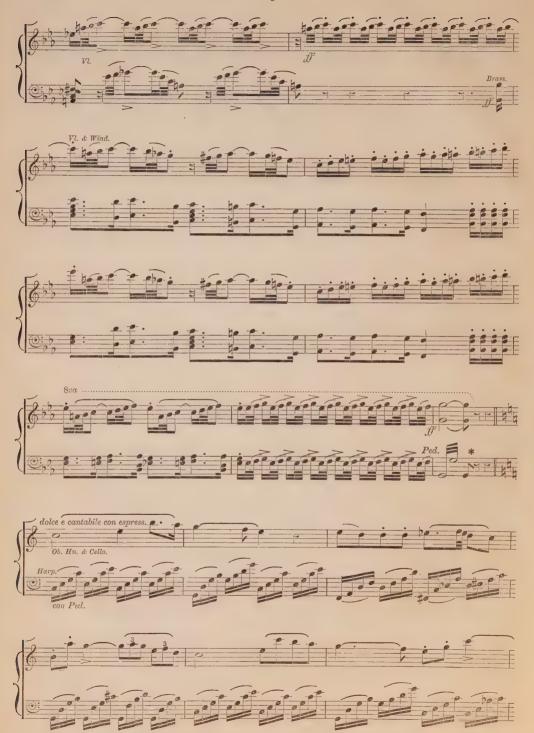
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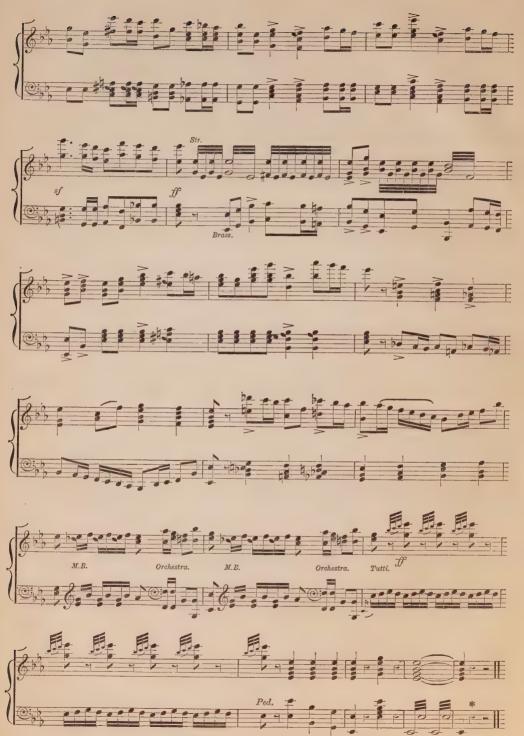




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### ACT I.

Scene.—Village on the Gulf of Finland. To the left is the house of George Skavronski, with steps up to the door; to the right, the porch of the village church. At the back of the stage are rocks, and a rule pier, overhanging the Gulf of Finland. Noon.—The carpenters are discovered, resting during their dinner hour, and waited upon by their wives and children. Peter alone continuing at work.





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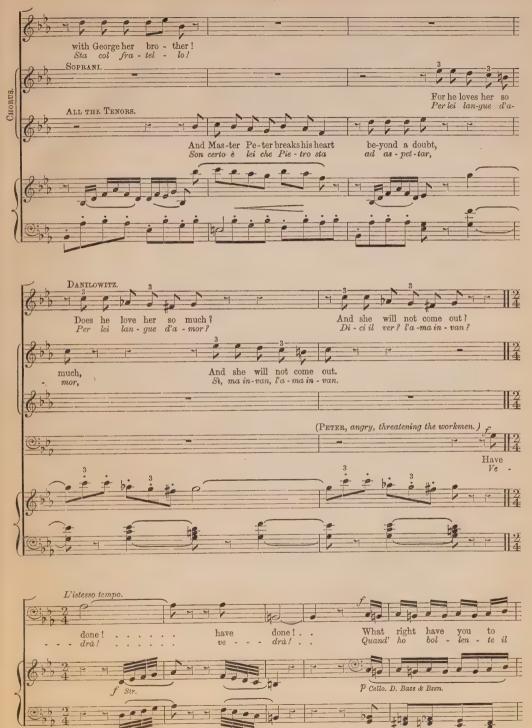
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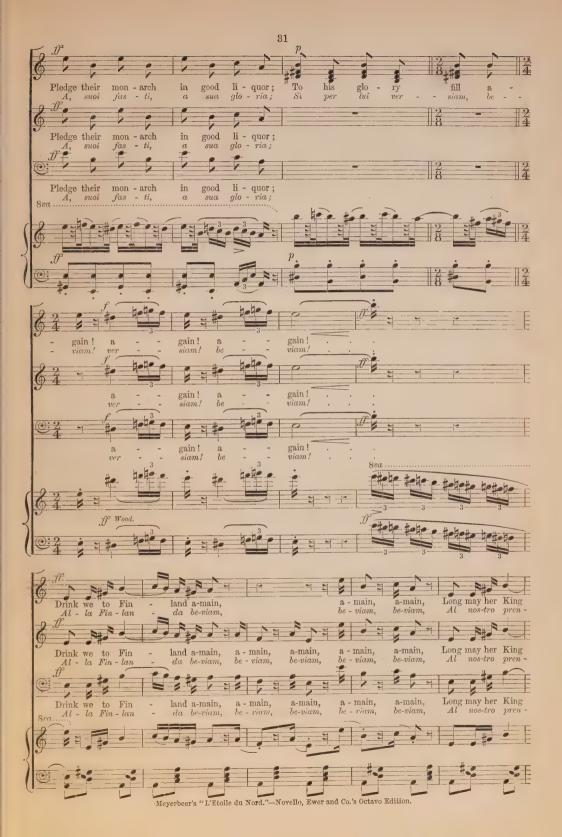
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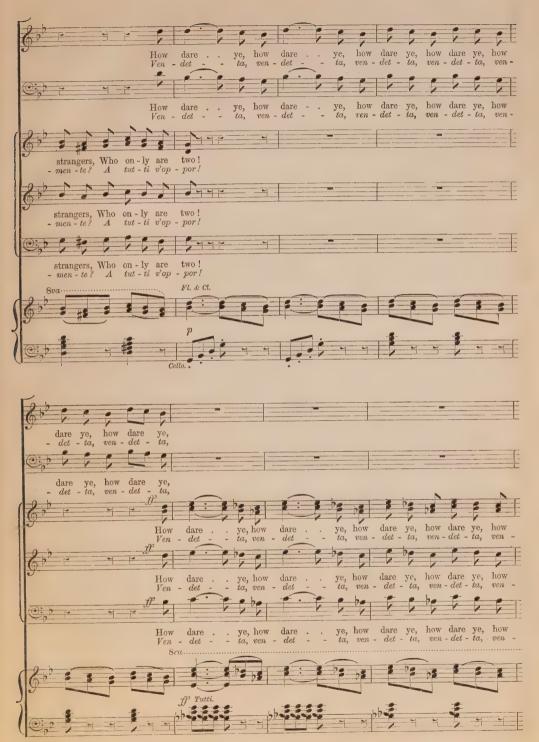
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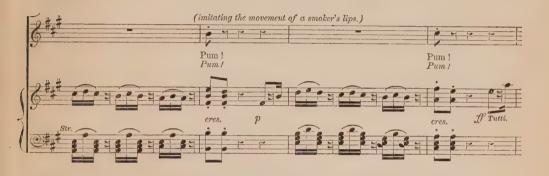






Flutes, Oboes, Clarionets, Bassoons, Horns, & Strings.











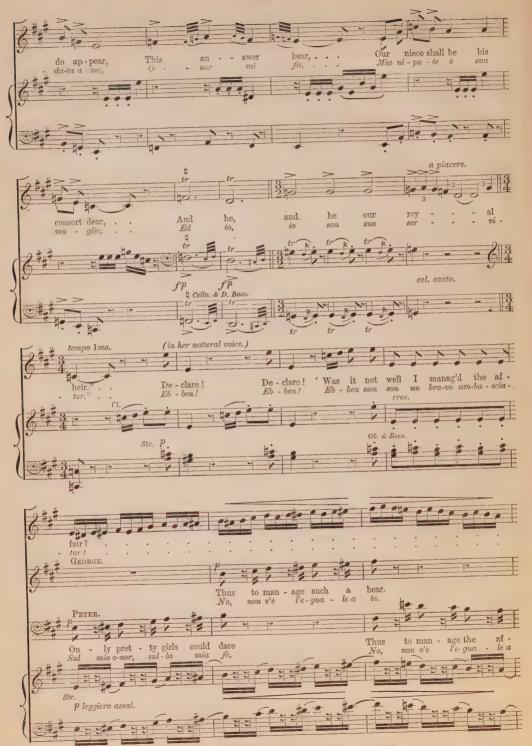


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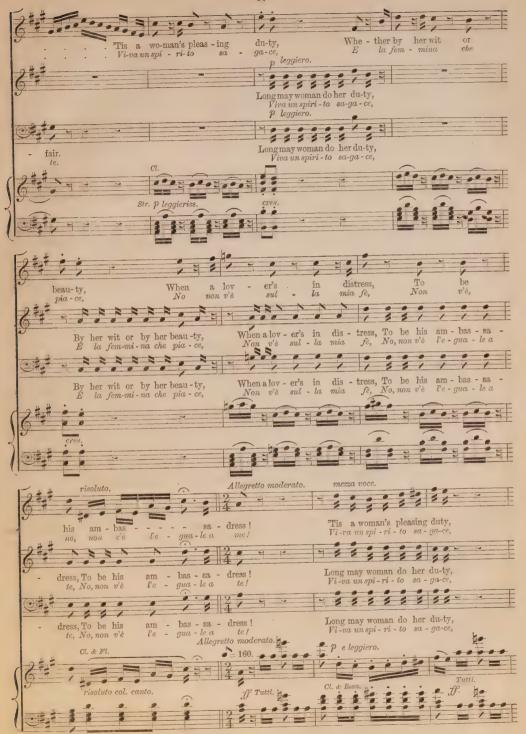


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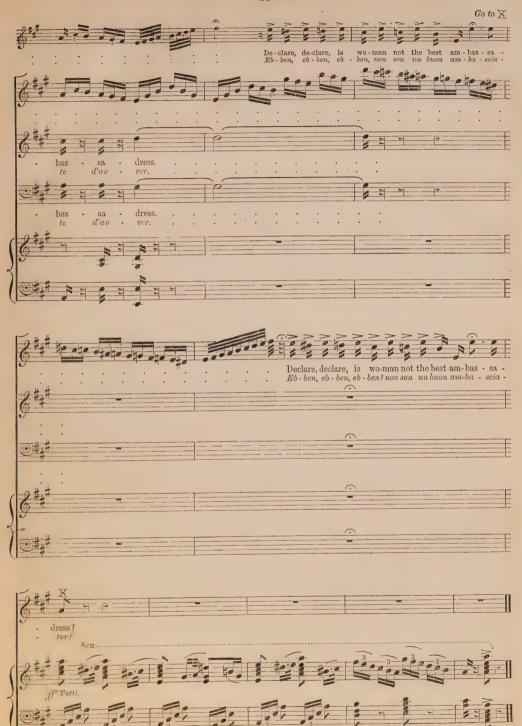
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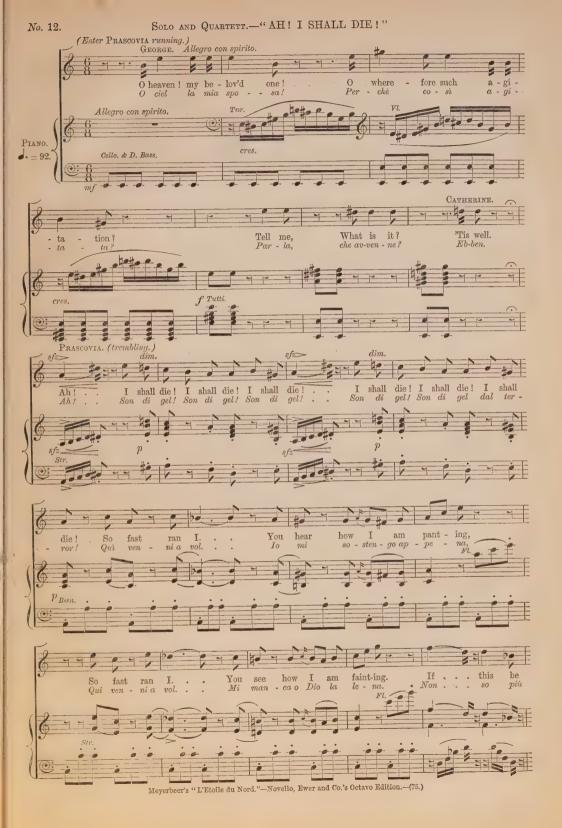






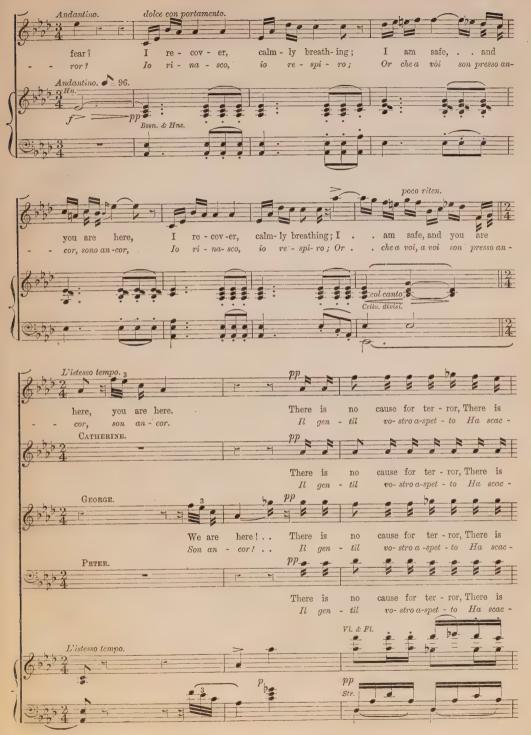


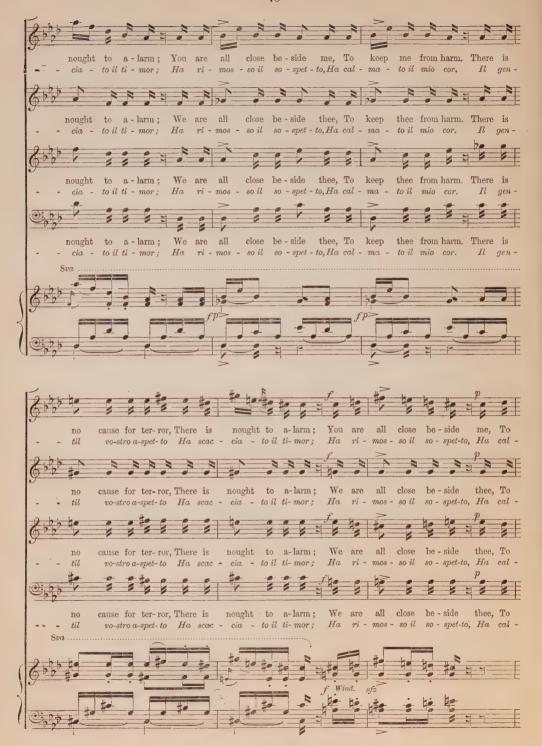




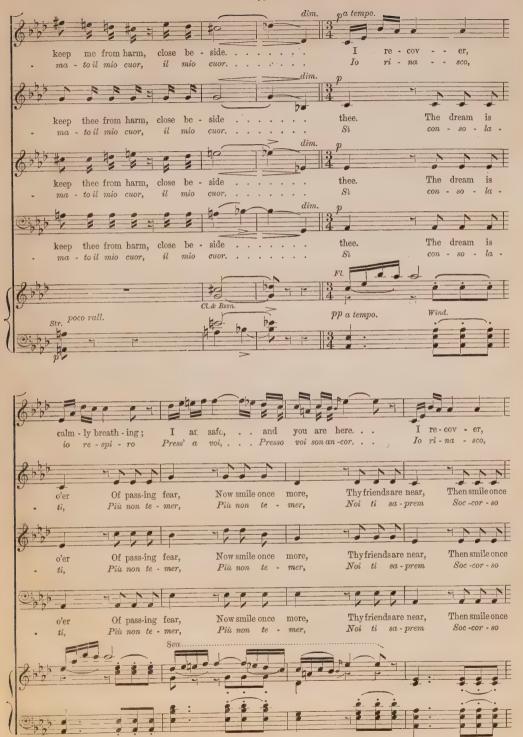


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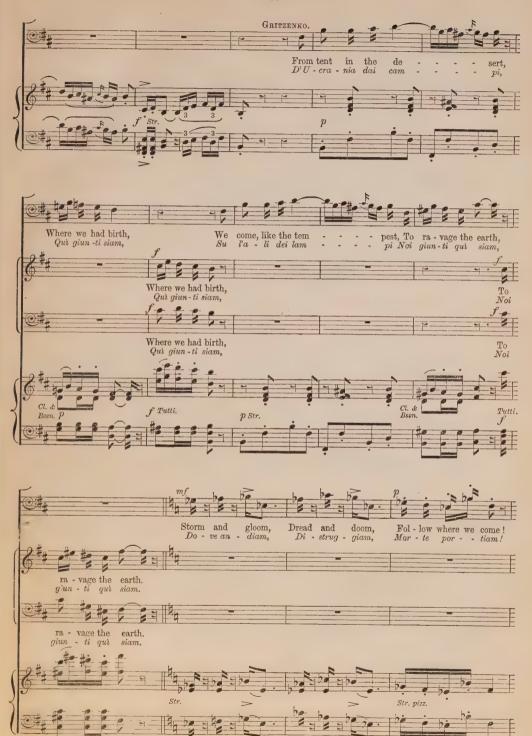


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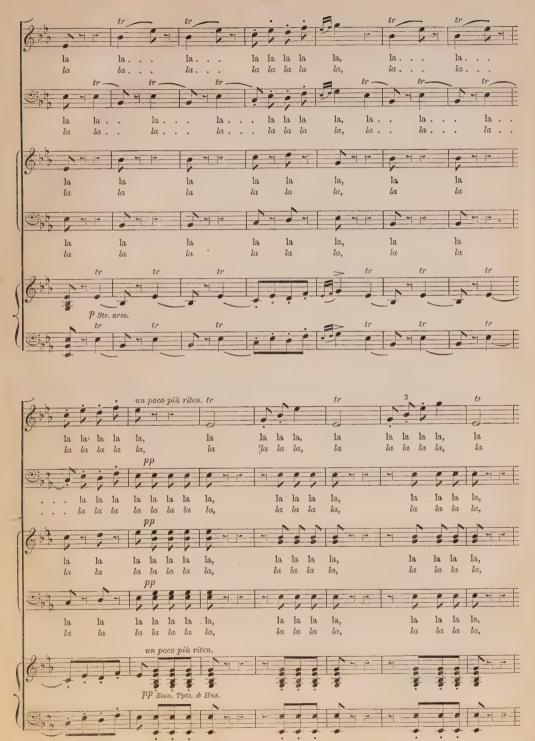




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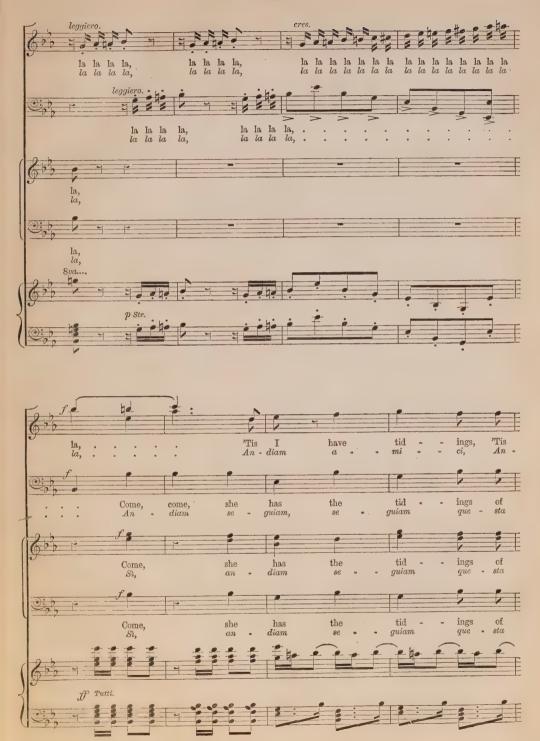
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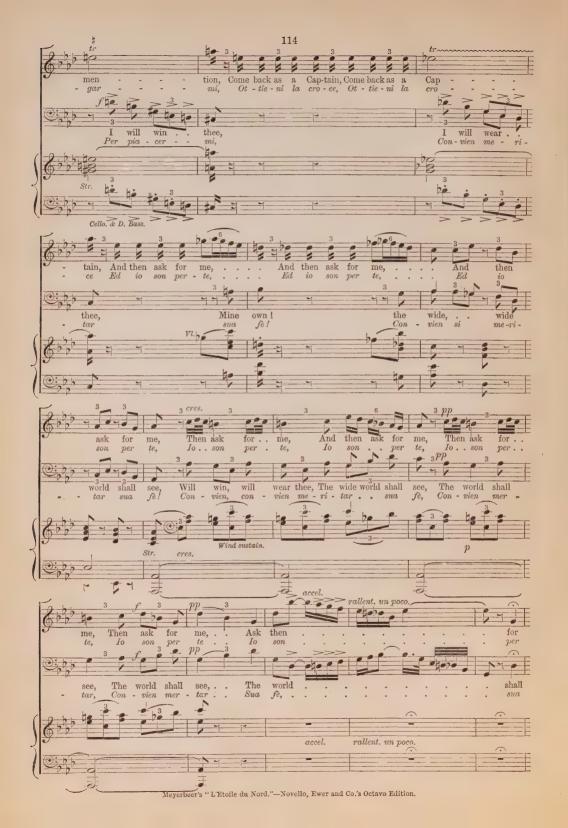




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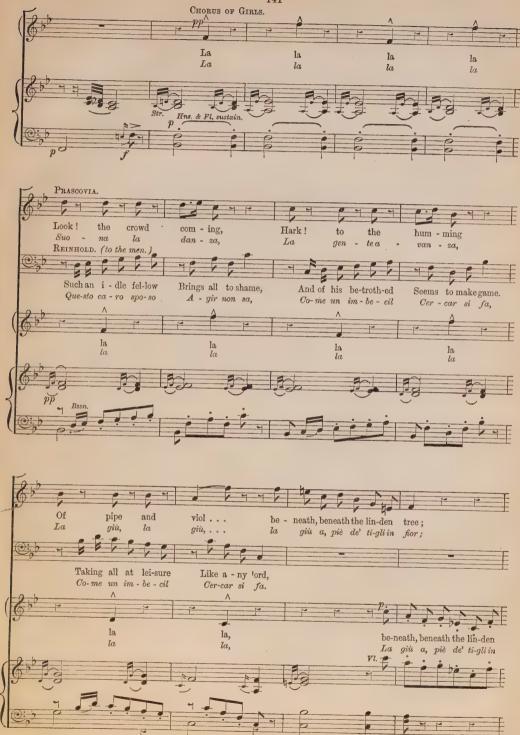


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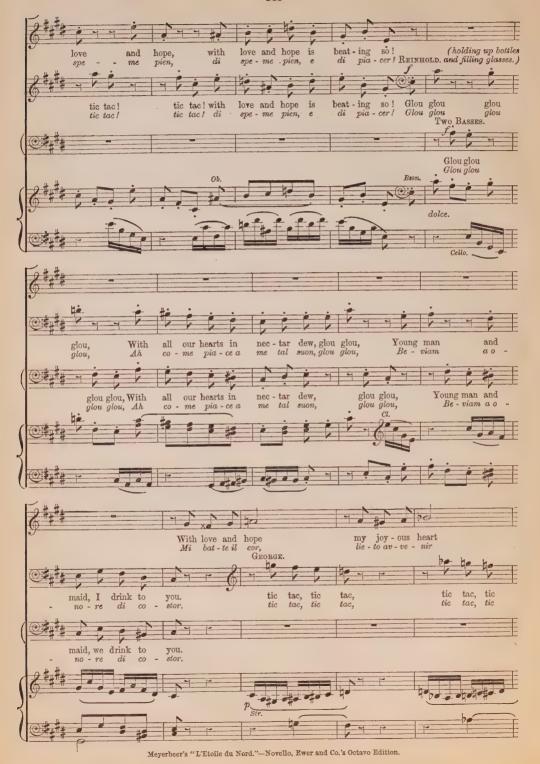


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(All kneel. The bridesmaids place the bridal crown on Prascovia's head, and give her a nosegay. Catherine, wrapped in a large cloak, passes through the crowd, pauses on the pier, and turns towards the bridal party.)



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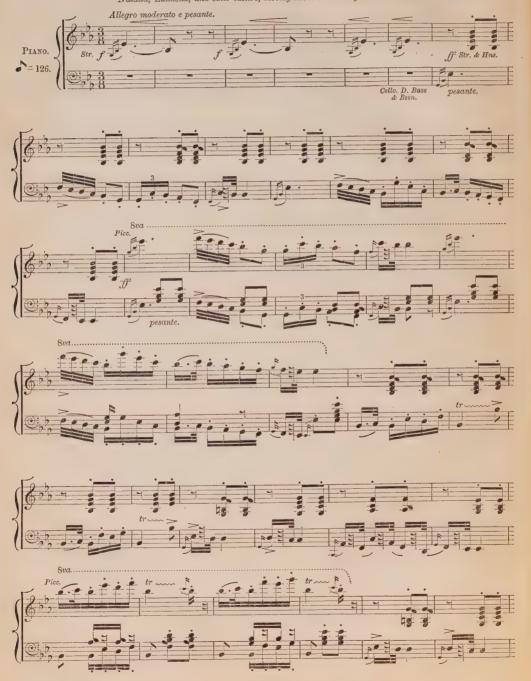


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## WALTZ.

Scene.—A Russian camp, tents at the back of the stage. On the right and on the left, soldiers in groups; arms piled, &c., &c.

Natalia, Ekimona, and other sutlers, moving about or dancing with the soldiers.



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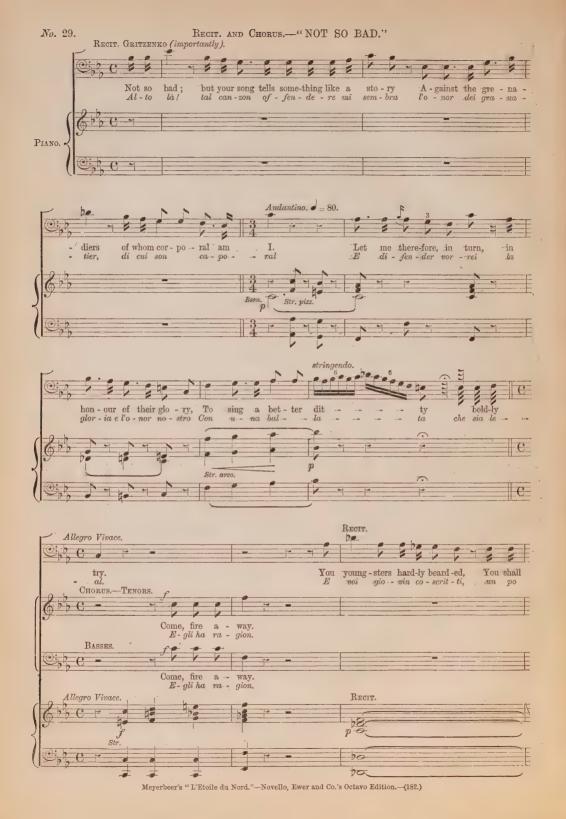


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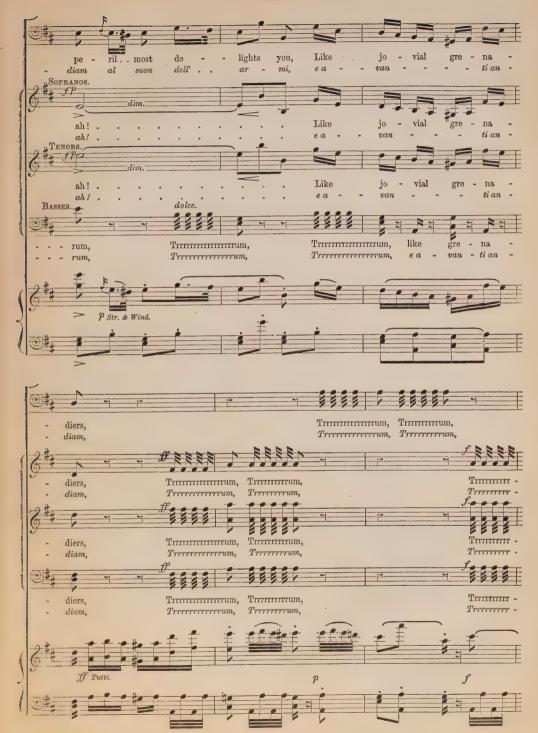


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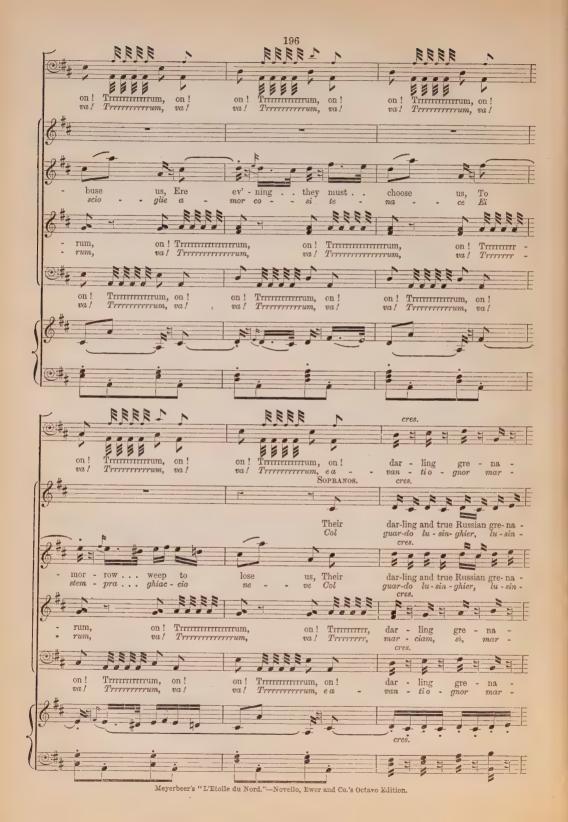
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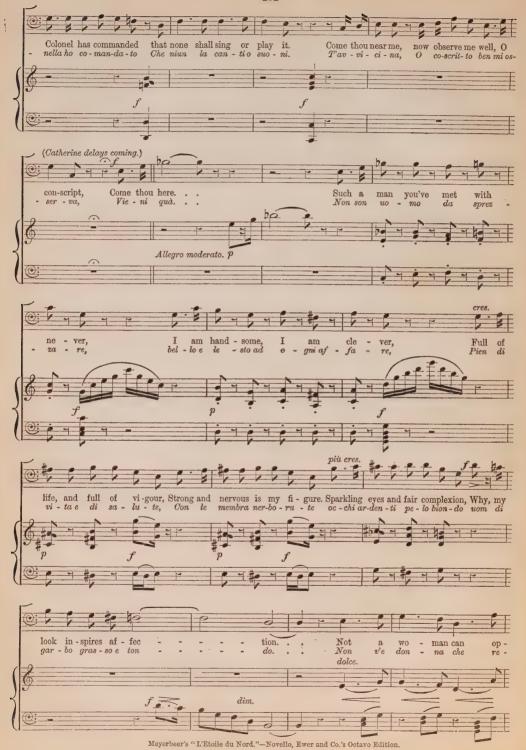
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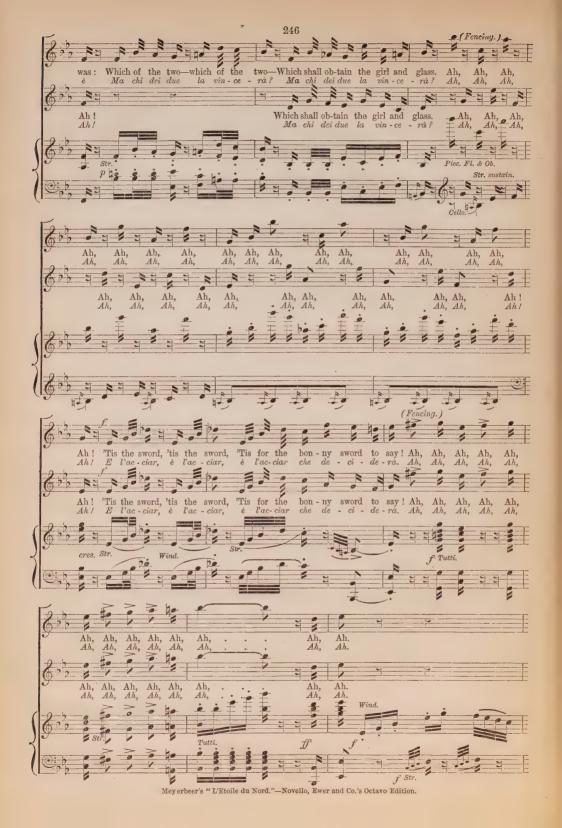




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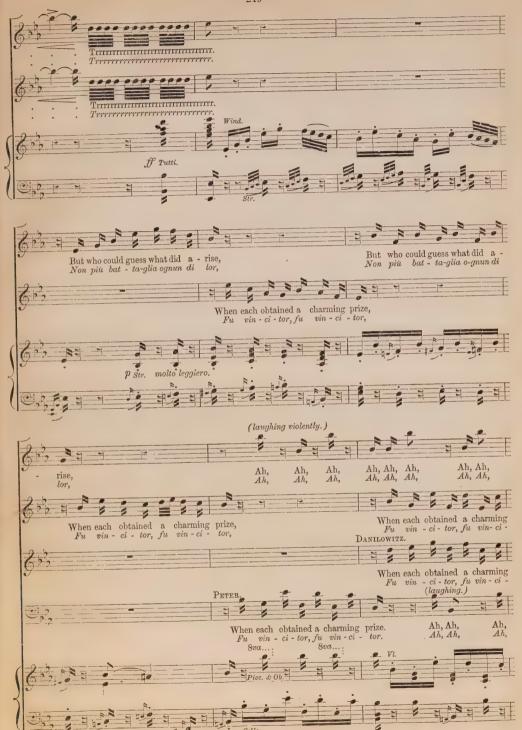
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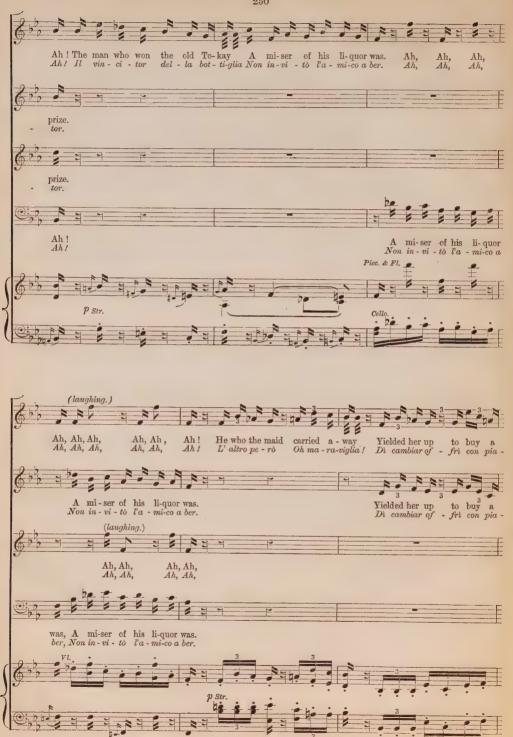


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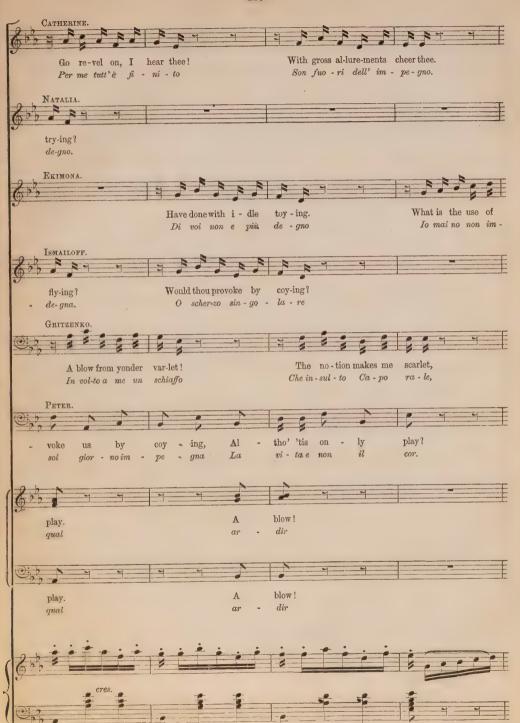
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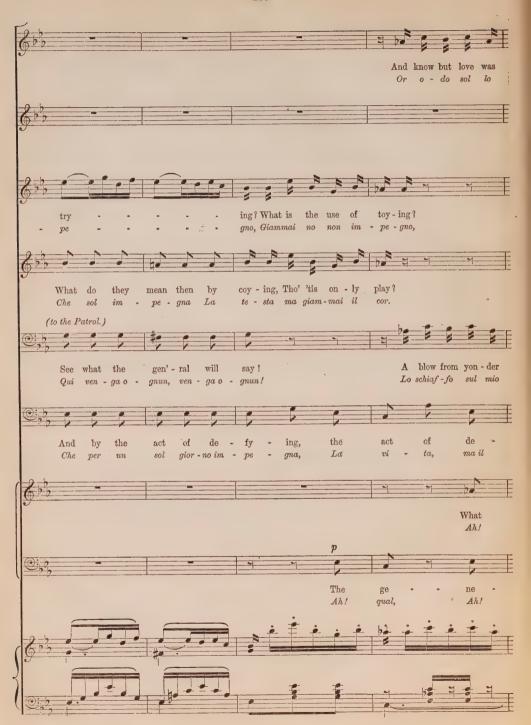
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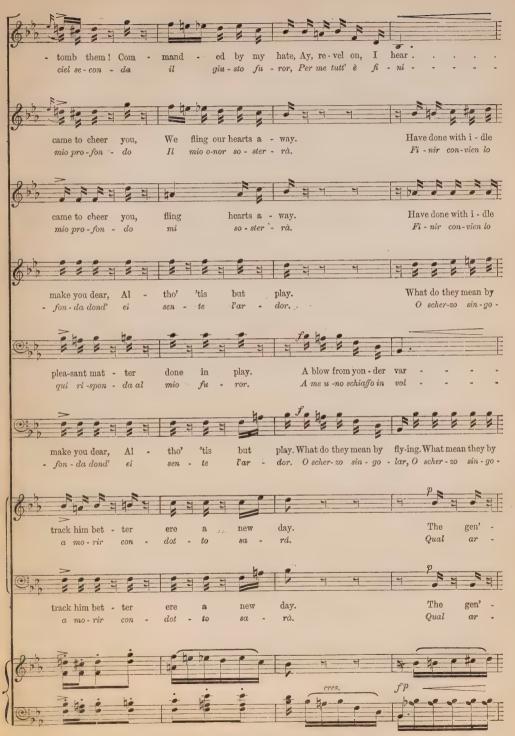


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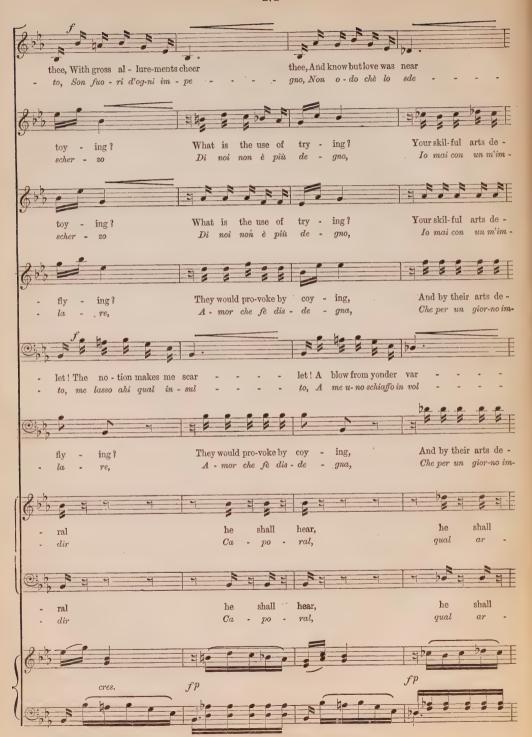


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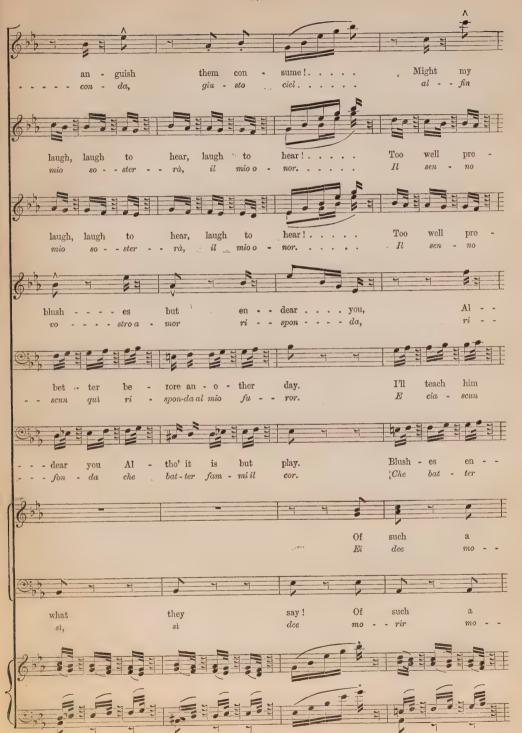
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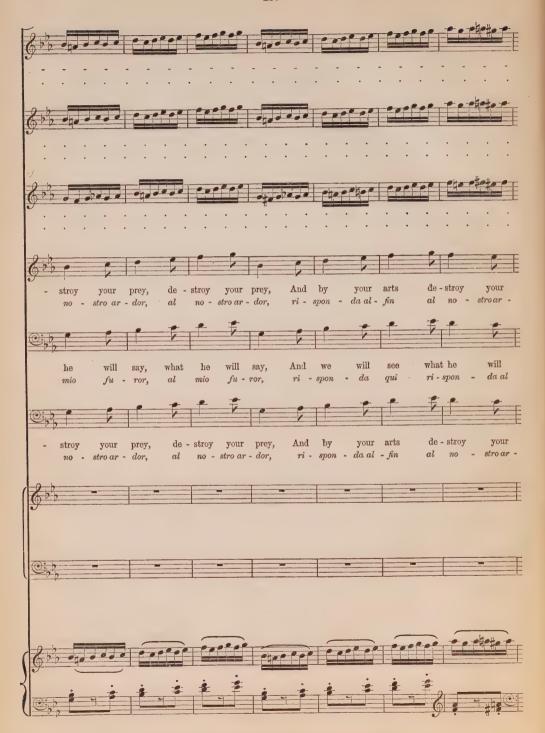
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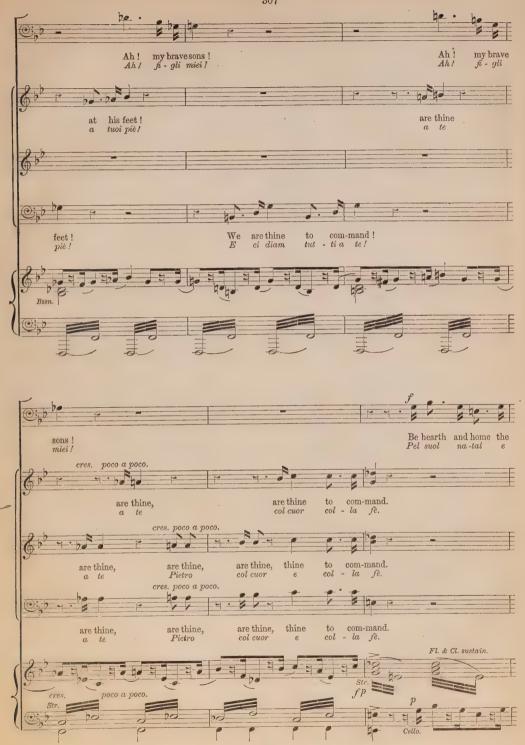


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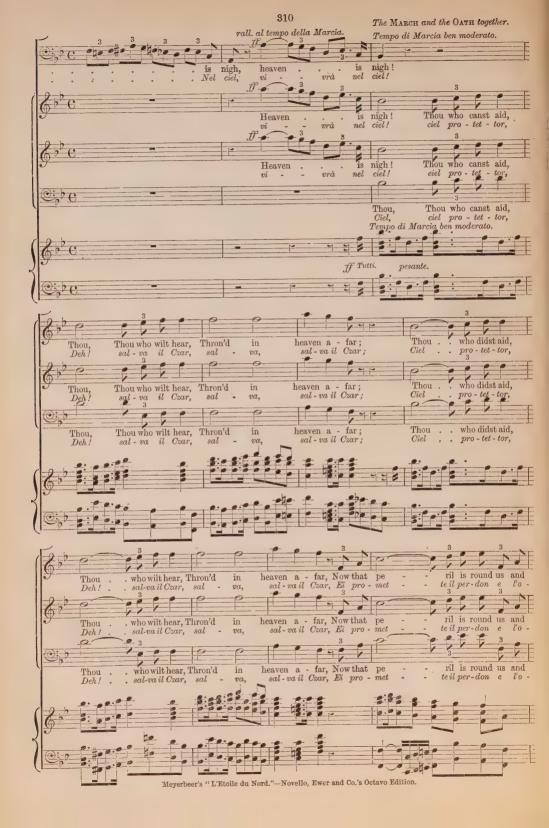


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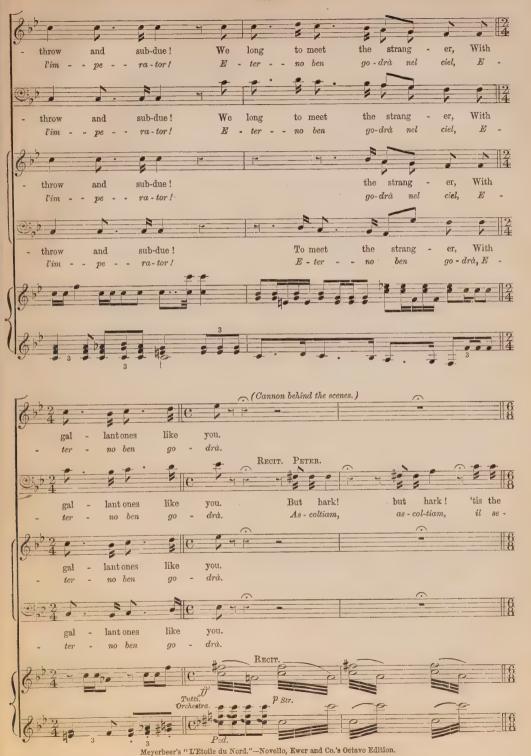


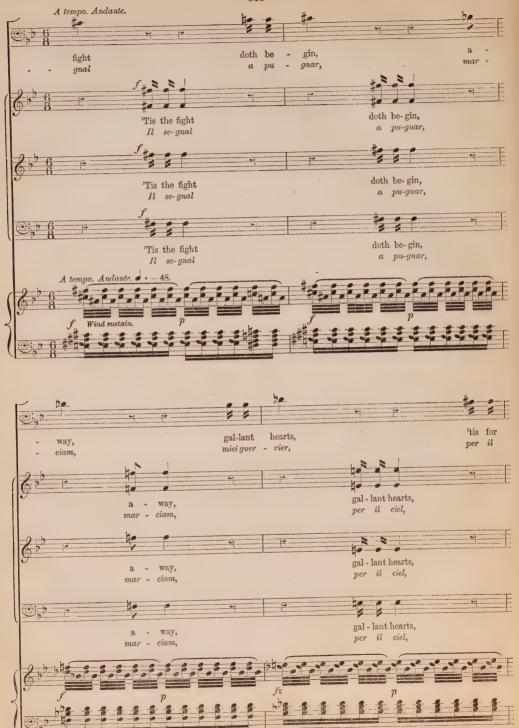
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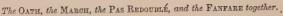
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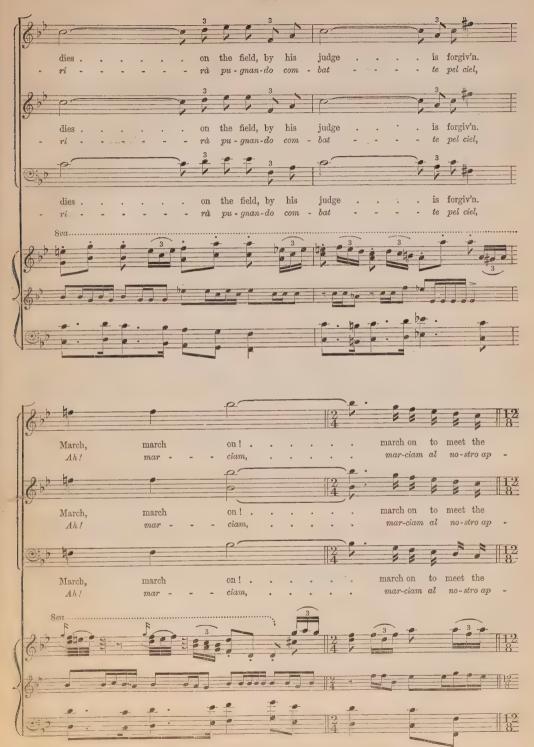
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## PRELUDE.

An apartment in the Czar's palace. The back of the stage is entirely filled by a rich window, with gilt frames and blinds that open on the outside. On the left is a door communicating with the gardens; on the right, a door leading to the palace. On the right of the stage are a hatchet and a carpenter's working dress, laid on a chair; and a writing-table, with materials for writing.



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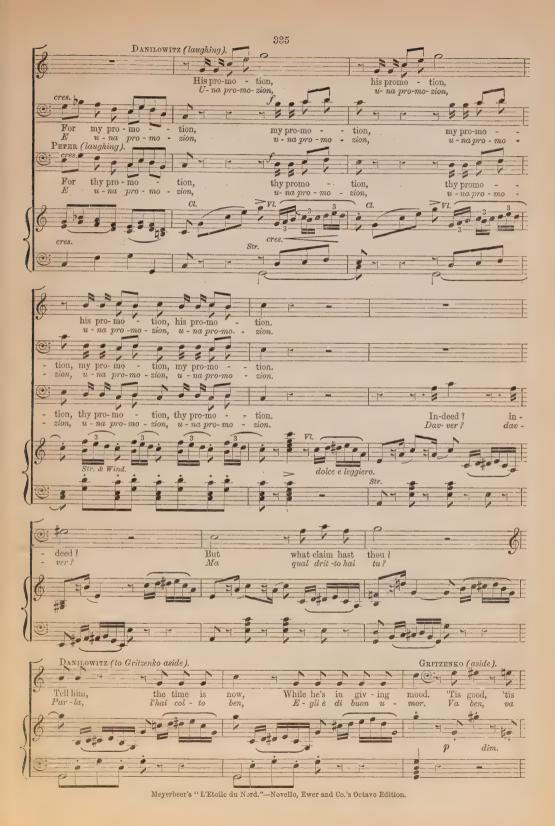
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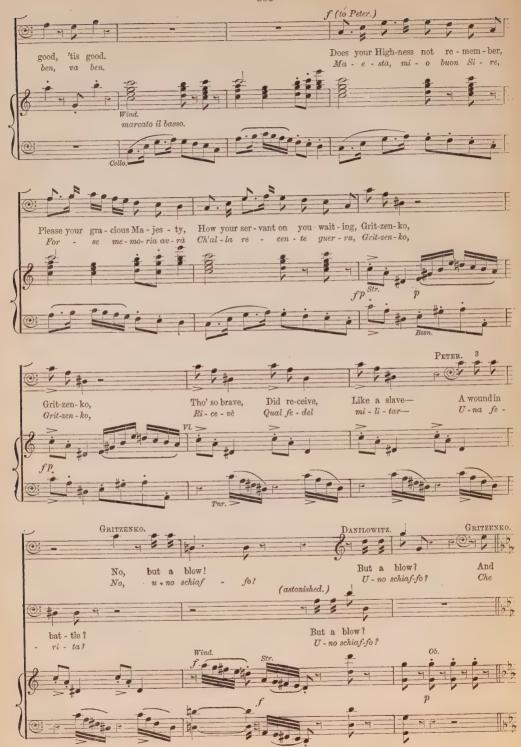








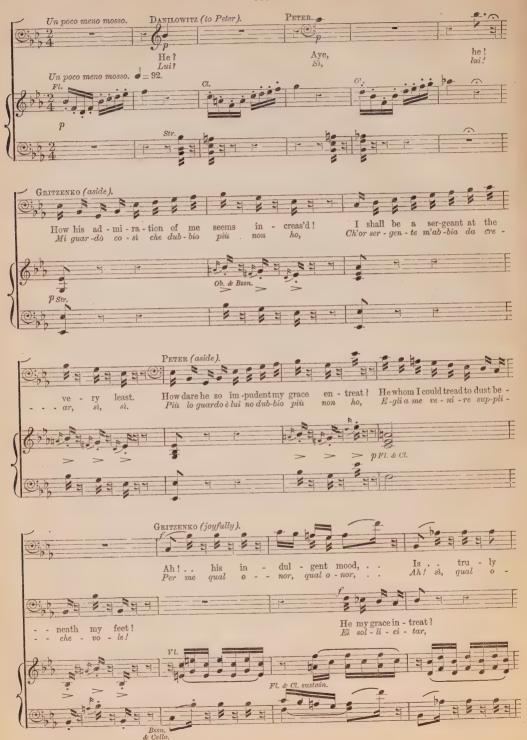




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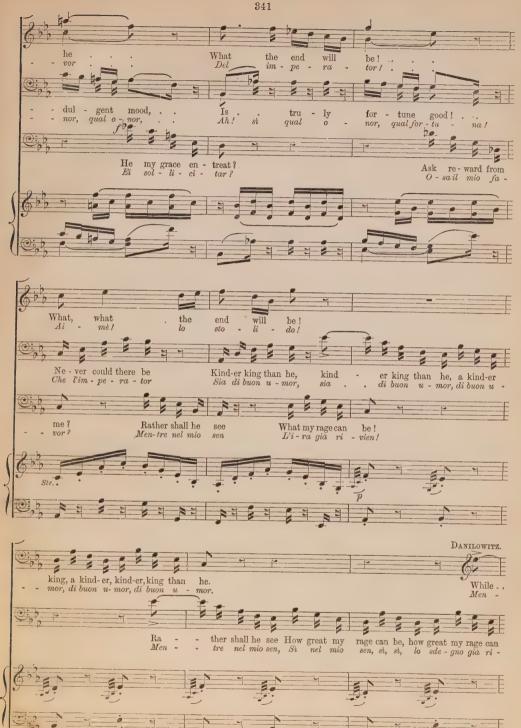
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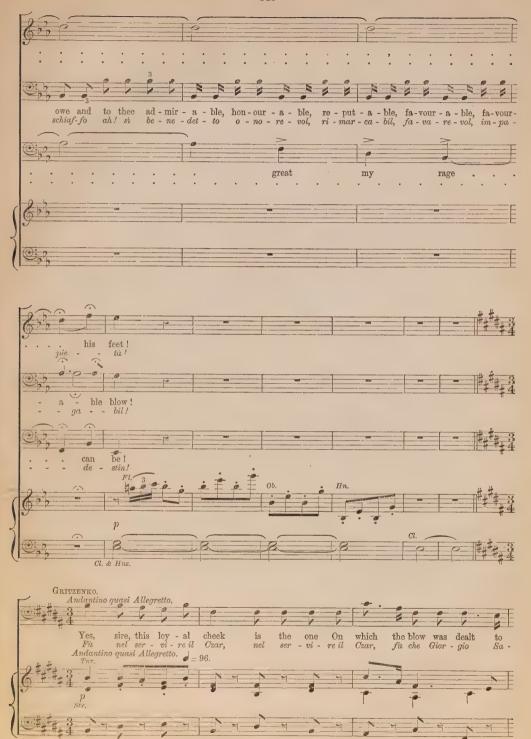




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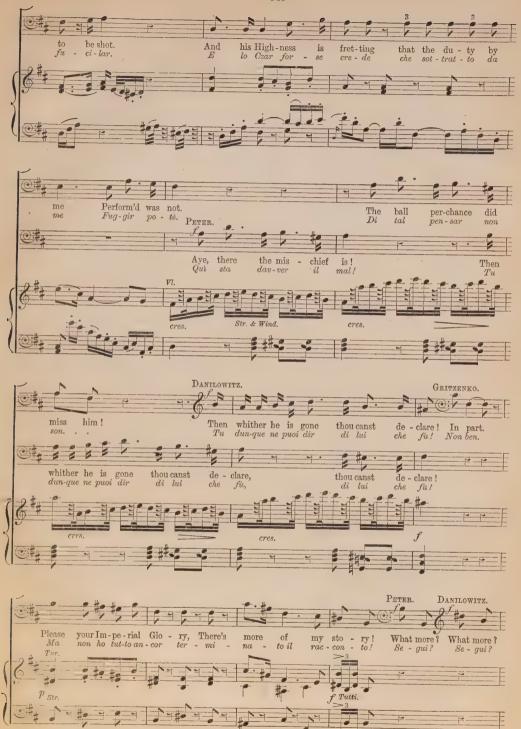


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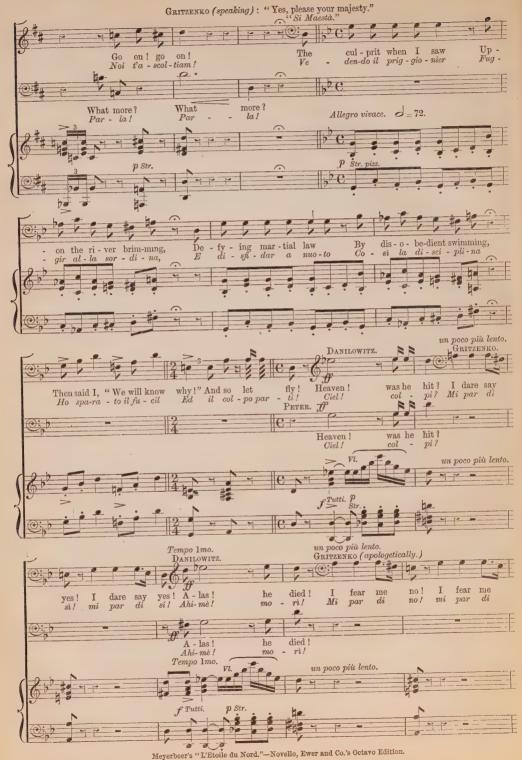


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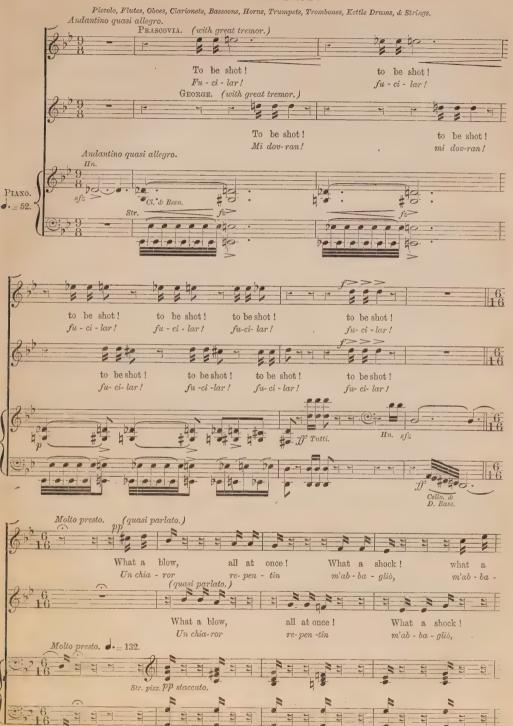


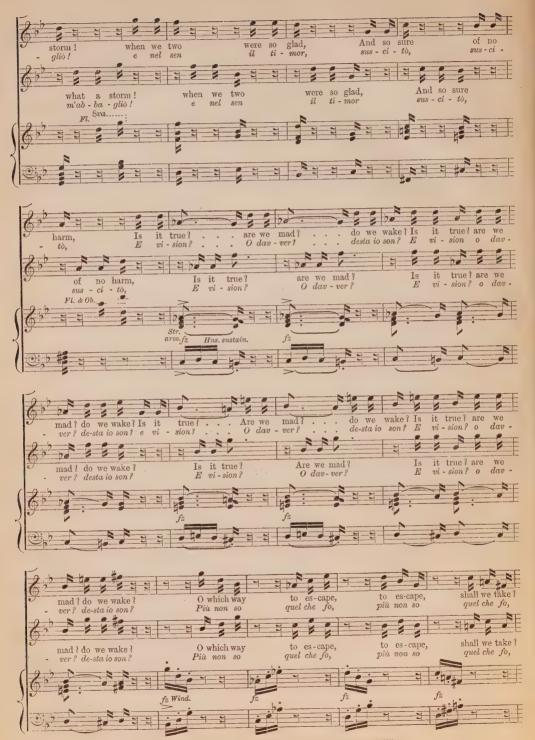






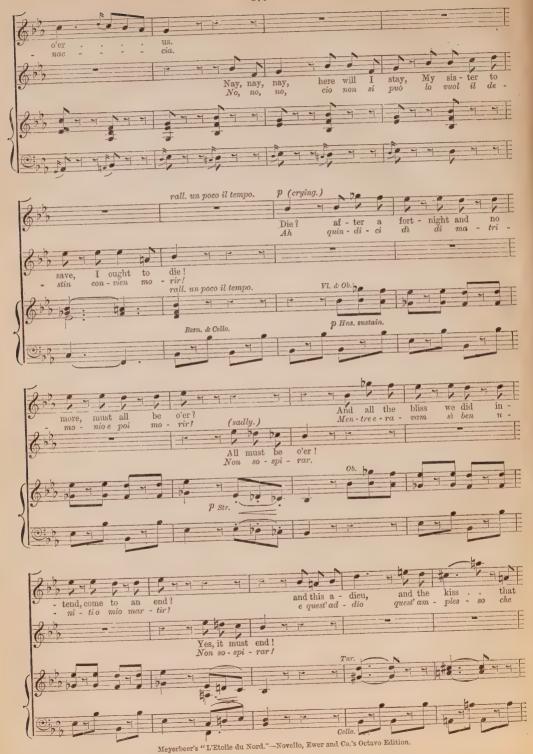
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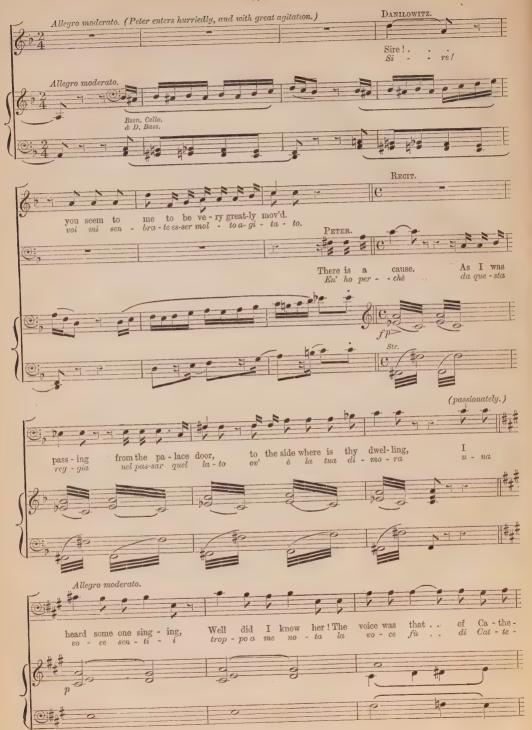






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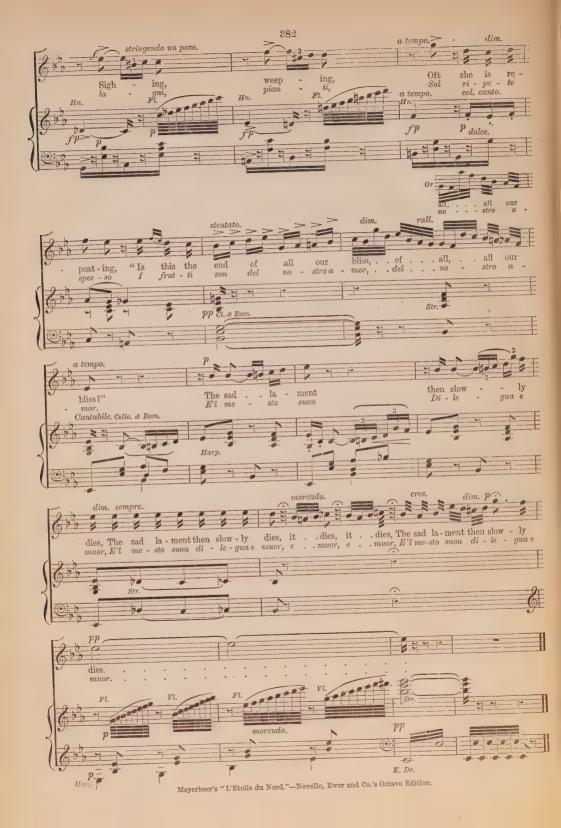
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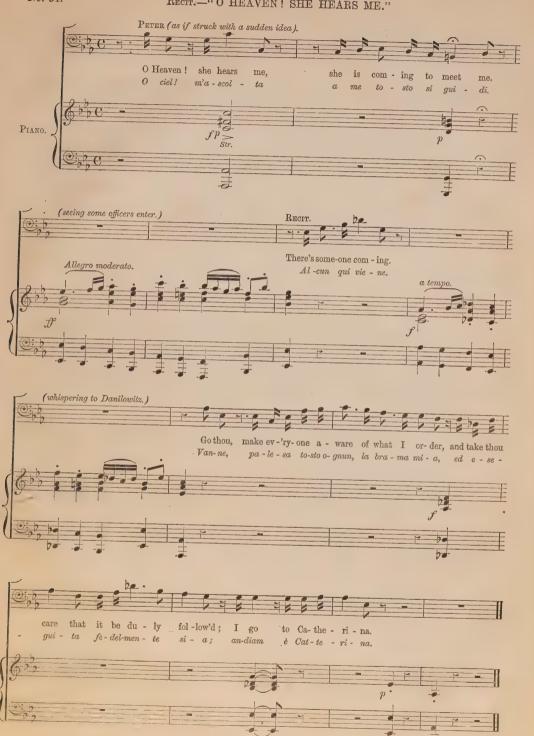




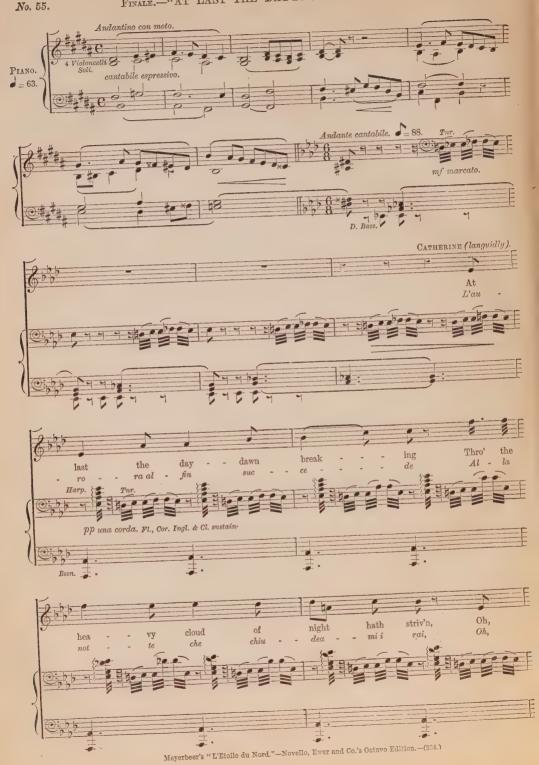




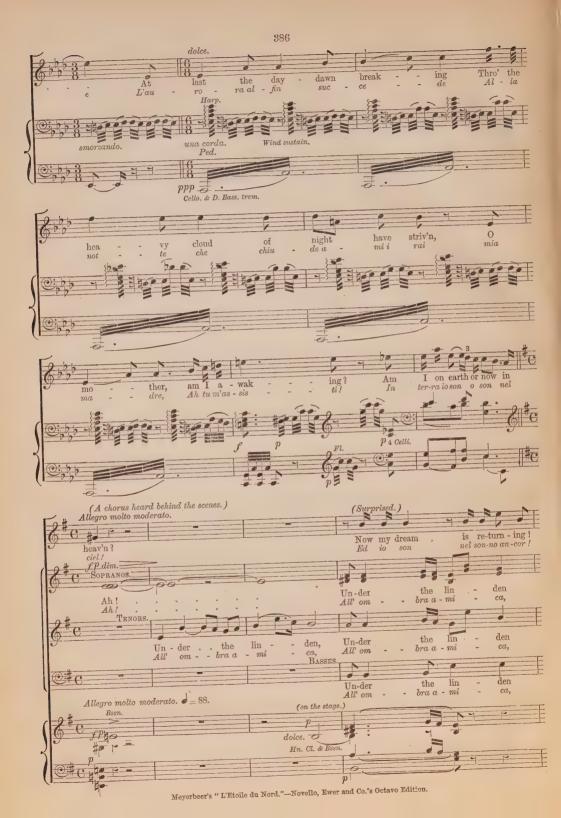




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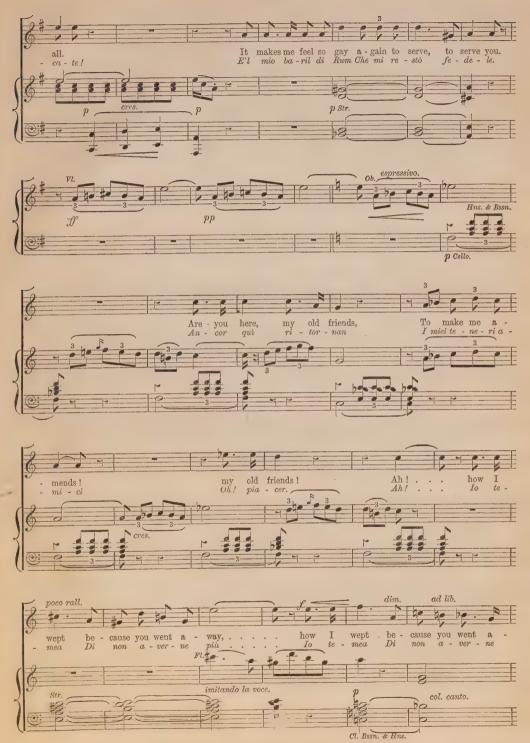




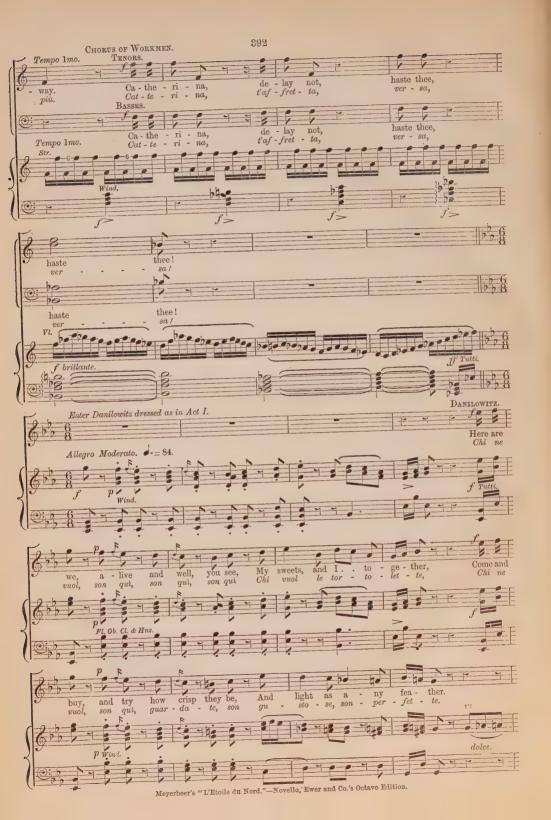
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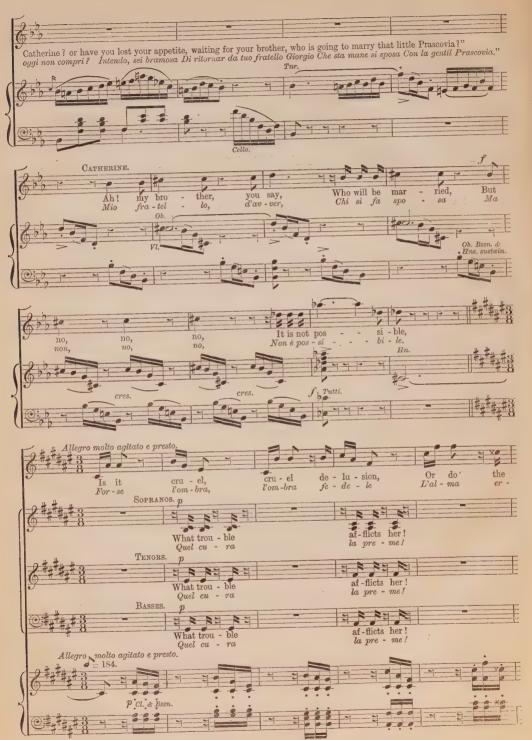


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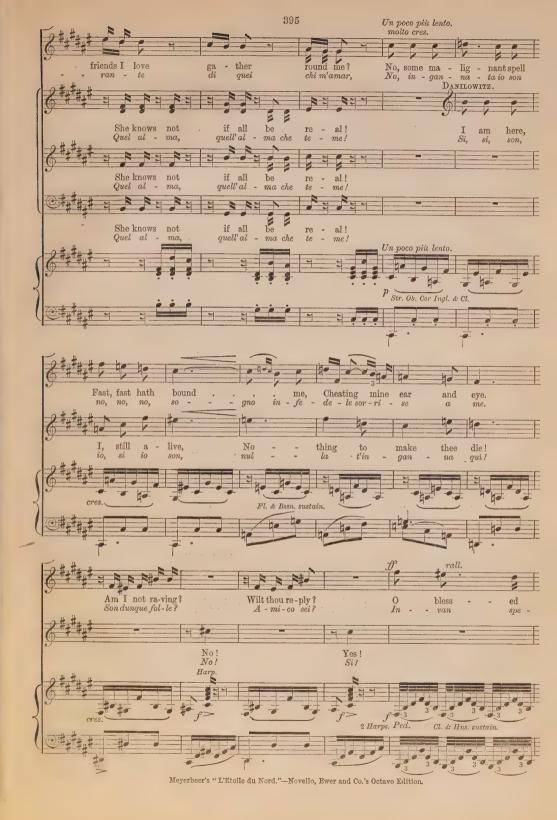




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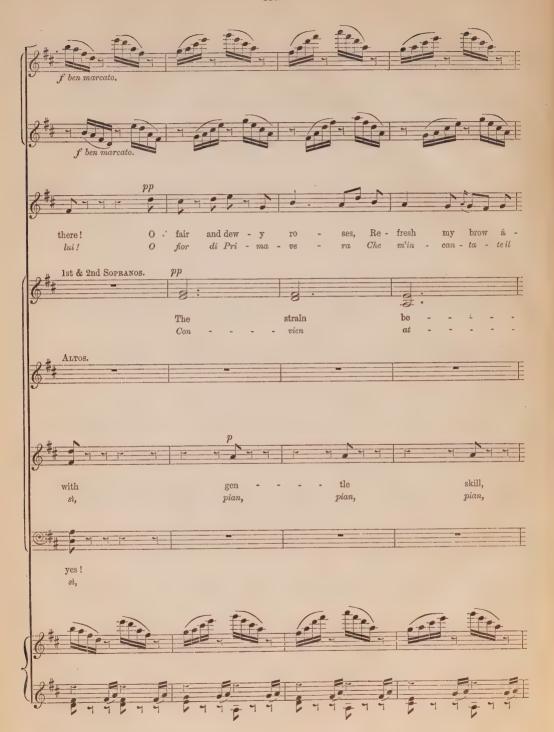


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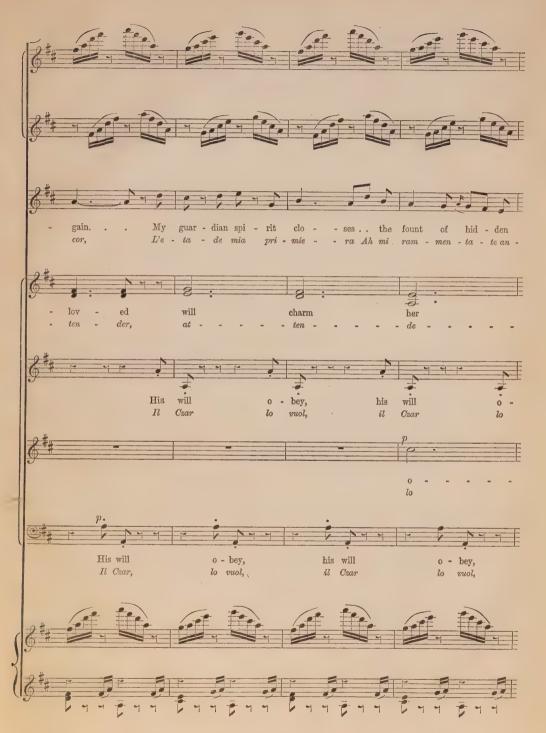


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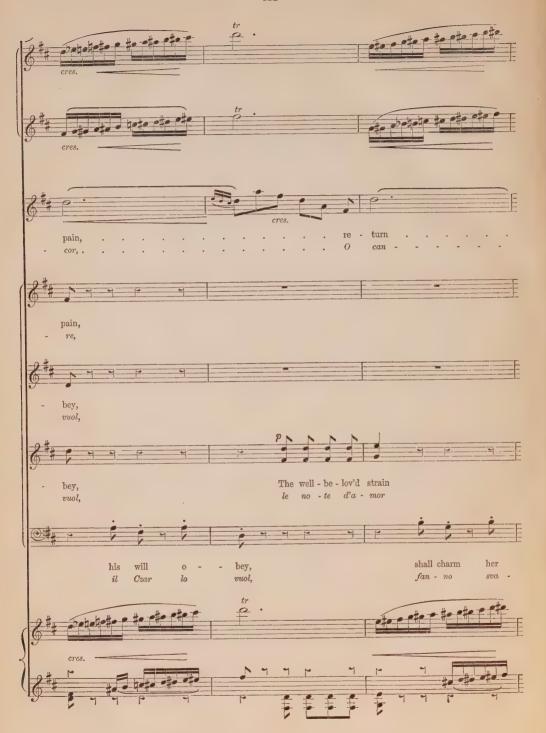




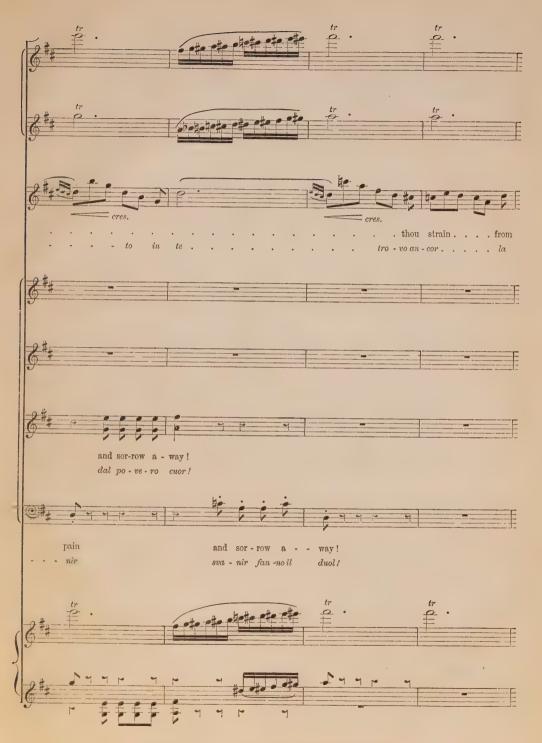
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